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SECURITY INFORMATION

REPORT

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COUNTRY ~~East Germany (USSR Soviet Zone)~~

DATE DISTR. 23 Sept. 53

SUBJECT Soviet Vehicle Equipment and Parts

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THIS IS UNEVALUATED INFORMATION

1. In Soviet military automobile parts depots in Germany, an issue of paint was expected to last eight months; tires, two years. This authorized time period was not enforced, however, and these articles could be re-supplied in less time. The Chief of the Automobile Department, 4th Gds. Mecz. Army, for instance, determined the re-supply schedule for his units.

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2. The most difficult automobile supply items to obtain were:

acetone

carbide

paints

glass

acids

steel (especially thin sheets)

electrical appliances

ball bearings

ARMY review completed.

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3.

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4. [redacted] tractor and motor transport equipment was placed in reserve in central depots, subordinate directly to the Armed Forces Ministry in the USSR.

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5. When sedan tires were issued, they were supposed to last for 25,000 km.; truck tires, for 37,500 km. Vehicles were inspected after 180,000 km. and could be authorized for cannibalization, or could be declared fit for further use.

[redacted] an army lost about 150 vehicles annually.

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6. In wartime, supply trucks carrying equipment would be sent directly from the producing plant to the pertinent units' supply sections. The Ministry of Armed Forces would have representatives in the factory to send the equipment to priority units, and a representative of the unit (division or regiment) would accompany the shipment from the factory to the unit. Spare parts went from factory to army or group depots.

7. As late as March 1953, [redacted] German factories [redacted] furnished spare parts for units in the GOFG.

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8. [redacted] military depots supplied only those units subordinate to them.

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